

POST FOR KILLIAN CONFIRMED BY U.S.

White House Announces New Head of Intelligence Panel

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WASHINGTON, May 3—The White House confirmed today that Dr. James R. Killian Jr. would head the special Presidential board that monitors United States intelligence activities.

The appointment of Dr. Killian, chairman of the Corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was announced by Andrew J. Hatcher, assistant White House press secretary.

The board of monitors, established in 1956, has been inactive since former President Dwight D. Eisenhower left office. Dr. Killian will replace its former chairman, Gen. John E. Hull, (retired), former commander of the United States forces in the Far East. General Hull, it is understood, will remain as a member of the board, but the rest of the membership, which will be revised, remains uncertain.

Reactivation of the board is regarded here as part of an attempt to restore confidence in the Central Intelligence Agency and to dampen demands for closer Congressional supervision and investigation that might subject the secret agency's operations to greater publicity.

'Watchdog' Committee Asked

A Senate resolution proposing a joint Congressional "watchdog" committee to keep the intelligence agency under permanent Congressional supervision is attracting considerable Congressional support. The measure is sponsored by Senator Eugene J. McCarthy, Democrat of Minnesota.

Several similar resolutions have been introduced in the House of Representatives. The latest was submitted today by Representative Edward W. Hiestand, Republican of California.

Mr. Hiestand said it was wrong to blame the Central Intelligence Agency alone for the "mess" of the unsuccessful rebel landings in Cuba last month. But, he added, Congress should end a situation in which the agency operates "unchecked and off-times off-balance" and "with a blank check."

Unlike other Government agencies, the intelligence organization is not subject to review by any Congressional committee. It keeps its budget a secret even from most Congressmen by concealing its requests for funds in estimates submitted for other agencies.

A small elite group of Congressional leaders from both houses is kept generally informed, but this process is largely in the nature of secret consultation.

Leaders Oppose Committee

In the past, the Congressional leadership has stubbornly resisted members' demands for establishing a more formal Congressional body to check on the intelligence agency. So far there has been no support from the leadership for the idea's revival, although Mike Mansfield of Montana, the present Senate majority leader, was once the leading advocate of more Congressional supervision.

His Republican counterpart, Senator Everett McKinley Dirksen of Illinois, in a talk yesterday at the National Press Club, spoke strongly against any move for a Congressional investigation of the agency in light of the Cuban affair and showed little enthusiasm for the "watchdog" committee idea.

If there has to be a Congressional study, he said, it should be conducted by "a few men of knowledge and discernment," representing both parties, who might make "a quiet investigation" and report to the President.